



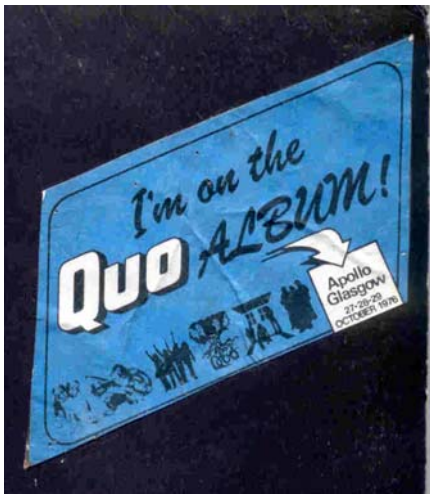
Welcome

Welcome to the bumper September 2004 Apollomemories newsletter – our 1st anniversary edition.

In this months edition we feature exclusive fan pictures of “the” Apollo band – Status Quo as well as an exclusive interview with seminal Scottish punk band The Rezillos.

Quo – Mystery Video

One of the most popular bands on Apollomemories is Status Quo. Their 1976 shows were recorded for the classic Quo Live album.



Apollomemories regular contributor P.K.Samuel tells us how he recently met up with Quo and had the opportunity to chat with them about their classic shows in 1976 & 1984.

Thanks to David Baillie for the pictures.

“Rossi & Andy Bown to this day still say it was the best venue anywhere they can recall.

Rick Parfitt also spoke of it fondly and deliberately got the band's photographer to do a time lapse shot featuring the balcony moving; pride of place amongst his Quo memorabilia.



Rossi regaled us with stories of the band's equipment used etc, during Oct 76 at the live recordings.

Whilst all 3 nights were officially filmed & recorded, only material used for the LP has surfaced, with much debate amongst us Quo fans regarding the whereabouts of the in-house promo films that were done at the time.”



Anyone out there know where the lost videotapes are?

Rezillos Interview – Exclusive for glasgowapollo.com

The Rezillos were arguably the leading band to come out of Scotland during the 1976-78 period. The band played what turned out to be their last gig for 23 years on 23rd December 1978 at the Apollo.

This concert was recorded and was released in 1979 as the live album "Mission Accomplished...but the beat goes on".



Many thanks to Martin Percival and Ross McIntyre for organizing and conducting the interview for Apollomemories.

Martin – How many times did the Rezillos play the Glasgow Apollo?

Eugene Reynolds (Singer) – We played the Apollo three times supporting the Stranglers and the Ramones there in 1977 and of course we did our very last gig there, of the first phase of the band, in December 1978.

Martin – What were your feelings at the time of that last gig? Do you have any other associated memories of that night?

Fay Fife (Singer) – I remember the last gig well. I can recall this weird feeling. Things were moving really fast and there was a very strong feeling at the time that music was just ephemeral - "pop will eat itself".

It also felt that people were almost willing us to break up. That, combined with a slight self destructive element that we had in us anyway, all helped to cause the split.

Eugene - I remember being quite enthralled and intimidated by the sheer scale of the place. It was the biggest show the Rezillos have ever played, at least to date anyway.



The stage was pretty high. When we got worked up during a performance, the nagging feeling of it being "curtains" if we fell off the stage stuck in the back of your mind!

It was very hard to see any of the audience when we trooped on stage due to the bright stage lights glaring in our eyes. When some back lights came on though during the show, they lit up the audience and I was quite zonked at seeing all those faces - so many of them!

At the end of the show it was really moving to see a lot of the fans crying because they knew we were breaking up. I had a real lump in my throat. I thought: "What the hell are we breaking up for?" We were on the brink of becoming a huge band. Crazy really, looking back.

Angel Paterson (Drummer) – I had a variety of feelings at the time of the last gig. Relief, because the situation in the group was tense. Working together after the decision had been made to split up was obviously strenuous.



Disorientation too, because we were trying to do a good show and record a good live album but for no really tangible reasons as the group, technically, no longer existed.

Eugene - At a couple of points during the set I was truly worried about the state of the balconies. Kids were jumping up and down like crazy. From the stage you could literally see the balconies moving up and down with the force of the body movements in virtual unison. The plaster was breaking up with the movement and it was dropping fine dust onto the crowds below. I thought, "Oh, shit. What happens if the balcony can't take it?" Luckily, it held up! I remember my mother and Fay's mother being at the gig in the audience. They were dumbstruck!

Fay – We played a lot of encores I recall, we almost didn't want it to end. Groups break up because they stop getting on with each other and that's what had happened with us at the time. If there had been a few more positive people around us maybe it wouldn't have happened.

Jo Callis (Guitarist) - I remember us being a little apprehensive about supporting The Stranglers in October 1977. We were still pretty much a 'local' band at the time and the Apollo was legendary AND we were supporting the Premier Division Stranglers. I think we were probably worried that the audience would be far too impatient to see The Stranglers to be bothered about us.



They were being allowed to play in Glasgow for the first time since having been banned by the city fathers after their previous appearance. Most “punk” bands were banned at the time from the city. But the Rezillos had built up a loyal following in Glasgow over the previous year and that helped carry us through. We got a terrific reception and it was a great night for both bands.

The Stranglers treated us with great courtesy and consideration, even holding the crowds back at the front doors at opening time so we could get a sound check. There had been a real buzz and sense of occasion about that evening, people were very excited about seeing The Stranglers again and, thankfully, they took to us as well!

Our next visit to the Apollo was on the Ramones "Rawkit to Russhaah". It was not one of our happier tours and I don't remember a great deal about the night, except that we got a great reception again, and with us being a lot more established by then, particularly in Scotland, perhaps the Ramones felt a little unnecessarily unnerved by the evening.

By the time we were headlining in our own right a year later, Glasgow and the Apollo had become home from home, we had no fear of the 20 or so feet drop from the front of stage (like standing on top of a small cliff, if you went to the edge and peered over!).

All our friends from the west coast would be spurring us on too, determined to have a good time come what may. Our farewell gig was a bit of a "wake" in a way, - a great party, tinged with the sadness that we were never going to do this again ...or so we thought!

How did the “Mission Accomplished” live album come about? Whose idea was it?

Eugene - Well, we announced we were splitting up at the early stage of a sold out British tour. The promoters were going mad and asking for refunds. If I remember correctly it was my daft idea to do a live album to go some way to rectifying the dire financial situation.



There is one moment (on the album) that really goes some way to capturing a fleeting moment. When Fay says "Hello Glasgow!"- you can really hear the audience roaring - like some strange creature from prehistoric times. It's a sound I'll never, ever forget."

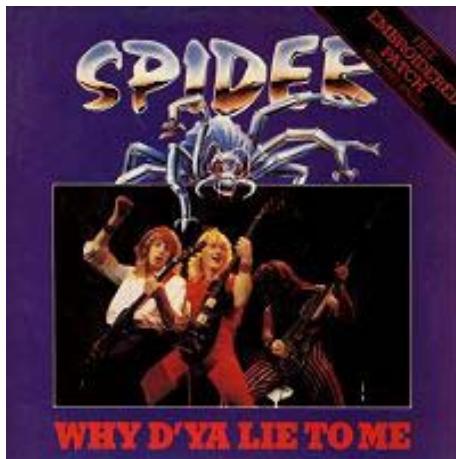


Thanks to the band for taking time to share some of their memories with us. The full interview will be published on glasgowapollo.com soon. For the latest information on what the band please visit www.rezillos.com.

Spider Man

Another band famous for the 12 bar boogie was 1980's act Spider. Colin Harkness of the band told Apollomemories:

"I was a member of Spider who played The Glasgow Apollo as support to Gillan in 1982.



Unfortunately it was the one and only time we played the famous old place. I do seem to recall a certain amount of trepidation before we played there as it had quite a fearsome reputation in those days.

Personally, it was a dream come true, as Quo's live album had been recorded there. Quo were my favorite band and that album today

still stands as one of Quo's best efforts.

I remember thinking to myself before the show... "I wonder if that balcony moves like Rossi says it does... "

Well, you could see the thing bouncing from the stage, alarmingly so.



Another thing that struck me was the height of the stage I considered wearing a parachute just in case I went over the edge... that was some drop..!!

But all fearsome reputations aside, my memories of Glasgow are positive ones... and of playing the Glasgow Apollo especially so. A great place to play !!"

.....and finally a jammy piece

Robert Fields sent us this rather odd image of Ken Hensley of Uriah Heep sitting on the Apollo dressing room throne during the bands "Firefly" tour.



Kenny used this picture for one of his solo recordings and titled it "Jam on the Pan 77".

And a wee plug.....

Our old friends Van Hielan are playing at The Liquid Rooms in Edinburgh on Sat 25th Sept with support from FULL METAL RACKET (Dio, Rainbow, Purple, AC/DC etc).

Tickets can be bought direct from www.vanhielan.com via Paypal or credit card.

Contact Information

Suggestions and contributions should be emailed to scott@apollomemories.com

We can also be contacted by post at Apollomemories, PO Box 354, Northwich, CW9 6WT

To advertise on our website or to discuss our web development services please contact us on: advertising@glasgowapollo.com

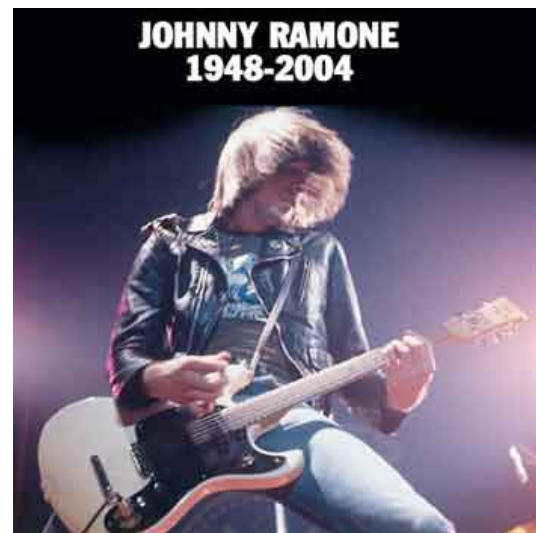
We are still looking for your memories for our forthcoming book about the Apollo.

Rest in peace, Johnny

As most of you will know Johnny Ramone, the lead guitarist with the influential U.S. punk rock band the Ramones, has died after a five-year battle with prostate cancer.

Johnny, 55, who was born John Cummings, died in his sleep at his Los Angeles home on Wednesday afternoon.

The Ramones, famed for playing their high-energy, unpolished songs at breakneck speed, rose to fame in New York City in the 1970s, paving the way for such punk rock icons as the Sex Pistols and the Clash.



Many Apollo fans remember the Ramones shows as being amongst the greatest ever performed at the venue. Rest in peace big man.....